Increase in cost of agriculture production

†2072. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH LALAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the main problem of agriculture is the situation arising due to incessant increase in cost of production;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Indian Society of Agricultural Science and Indian Council of Agricultural Research have realized the need for comprehensive charges in research work, keeping in view the agriculture aspect of WTO; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) No Sir. The cost of production of agricultural crops depends on cost of cultivation and productivity. Accordingly in case the productivity increases at a higher rate than the increase in cost of cultivation, the cost of production of such crops may actually decline. Conversely, the cost of production may increase. Thus seen over a period of time, the cost of production shows a fluctuating pattern.

(c) and (d) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has been continuously pursuing the work of agricultural research and scientists are being apprised of the different agreements relating to agriculture in the WTO. ICAR has prepared its Draft 10th Five Year Plan keeping in view the WTO.

Crop insurance in Chhattisgarh

2073. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) which insurance company has been entrusted the work of crop insurance in Chhattisgarh;

(b) the number of farmers benefited therefrom;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.